

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 10, 2001 LR 7

pardon me, the task force consisted of Senator Lynch, Brashear, Chambers, Schimek, Beutler, Hudkins, Bromm, Kristensen, and Coordsen. Then in the year 2000, after the session adjourned, the committee began to meet to do two things. One was to make recommendations for the administrative side, how was this going to be done, not what was going to be done, but how was it going to be done. And secondly, the substantive side of the issue which, in fact, are the policies under which the redistricting process would be carried out and to recommend those, both the administrative guidelines and the substantive guidelines to the Legislature. We divided into two subcommittees and had a number of meetings on both sides of that issue. The administrative guidelines culminated in the recommended rules change that we adopted yesterday that formed the nucleus for a Redistricting Committee, that is three members from each of the congressional districts balanced for political representation and provided for the method of determining who would be Chair and Vice Chair. This morning then, and if you would follow along in your Journal or if you happen to have a copy of it, we will go to the substantive guidelines as recommended to this body by last year's or the last session's task force. And I'm going to move through them rather quickly because, as I read in the paper, I talk quite slowly so I'm going to have to speed this up just a little bit to get through it all. First of all, the Legislature created a Redistricting Advisory Task Force, which I went through. We adopted substantive guidelines for consideration by the Legislature and then we'll go into the substantive guidelines at this point. At the bottom of page 1 says: In the event that two sets of population data, adjusted and unadjusted, are released by the Census Bureau, we recommend that the data determined by the Census Bureau to most accurately reflect the number of persons residing in this state will be used. Whether that is actual count or whether that is another set of figures that the Census Bureau feels is more accurate, we will use whichever is recommended to us as the most accurate. All of the district boundaries that we establish during this session of the Legislature shall be based on census geography. What we're doing today, what we'll be doing this year is the third phase of the redistricting process. The Legislative Research Division has been working in cooperation with the federal government Bureau of Census for several years in establishing a number of